

TRIBAL STAFF REPORT
Tribal FALL FACT SHEET No. 1
Columbia River Compact
August 17, 2006

Purpose: To consider treaty Indian commercial fishing options for the mainstem Columbia River.

Treaty Indian Fall Season Fisheries

Currently the platform/hook and line fishery is open for sales and subsistence use in all of Zone 6. Sales of platform caught fish began on June 8. The platform fishery expects to harvest about 400 fall Chinook and 3,500 steelhead (including 150 wild B steelhead) over the first part of the fall management period (through August 21). The sturgeon setline fishery in the Bonneville and The Dalles Pool closed on August 15. Only 36 sturgeon from the Bonneville Pool and 9 from The Dalles Pool were reported sold to commercial buyers in this fishery.

Based on the 2005-2007 Interim Management Agreement in U.S. v. Oregon, the fall season tribal fishery has a 23.04% harvest rate on URB Chinook and a 15% harvest rate on Wild B Index Steelhead.

Table 1 outlines the projected harvest in the proposed first three openings of the tribal commercial gillnet fishery).

TABLE 1. Treaty Zone 6 Fall Season Harvest

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Projected Total Chinook	Projected URB Chinook	Projected Total URB Harvest Rate	Projected total steelhead	Projected Wild B Steelhead	Projected Total Wild B Harvest Rate
Platform	Through 8/21		400	350	0.1%	3,500	150	1.5%
Proposed Gillnet #1	8/21-8/24	250	8,028	5,209	2.1%	1,182	69	0.7%
Proposed Gillnet #2	8/28-9/1	300	18,130	9,647	3.9%	1,999	189	1.8%
Proposed Gillnet #3	9/5-9/9	450	30,389	16,716	6.7%	2,939	206	2.0%
Subtotal				31,922	12.8%		614	6.0%
Expected Gillnet #4	9/11-9/14	450	24,928	12,909	5.2%	3,684	288	2.8%
Total				46,831	18.0%		902	8.8%

* Minimum mesh size restriction of 8 inches to minimize steelhead catch beginning with the 9/5-9/8 opening.

Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery Proposal

<i>Recommendation</i>		
Dates:	Commercial Gillnet Fishery 6:00 AM Monday, August 21 until 6:00 PM Thursday, August 24 (3.5 days) 6:00 AM Monday, August 28 until 6:00 PM Friday, August 31. (4.5 days) 6:00 AM Tuesday, September 5 until 6:00 PM Saturday, September 9 (4.5 days)	
Area:	All of Zone 6	
Gear:	No Mesh Restriction for first two openings, 8 inch minimum mesh size restriction for opening 9/5-9/9	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries remain in effect. The standard Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary will be used until we are certain to meet hatchery broodstock needs.	
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold but may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence.	
Miscellaneous Rules:	The quick reporting rule for Washington buyers will be in effect.	

- Additionally, the tribes propose to continuation commercial sales of platform and hook and line caught fish that began on June 8 until further notice. The allowed sales would include Chinook, coho, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold, but may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence. No Compact action is required.
- The Yakama Nation will continue allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries that overlap with commercial Zone 6 periods. Sales were allowed beginning June 8 and will continue until further notice. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

Tributary	Regularly Scheduled Opening	Allowed Commercial Sales
		Coincides with open sales for Zone 6 platform fishery
Big White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	Each weekly open 6:00 AM Mon. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays)
Klickitat River	6:00 AM Mondays to 6 PM Saturdays During the fall gillnet fishery then Tuesdays through Saturdays until December 23	Each weekly opening 6:00 AM Mon. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays)

There may be Drano Lake openings as well which would also allow commercial sales.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
August 17, 2006